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## BUSINESS FINE IN SOUTH.

**President Emerson Sees Signs of It on Every Hand. Planters Have Money From Cotton and Other Products and Are Prosperous.**

Reports from the South, particularly the Southeast, indicate that section to be enjoying the greatest prosperity in its history. This applies to all lines of trade and farming communities. The Southeast suffered comparatively little from cotton shortage and returns from the product break all previous records. Money is abundant everywhere.

President Emerson, of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, recently returned to New York from a tour of inspection over the entire system from Washington to Tampa, and is quoted as saying of conditions in Dixie:

"The farmers and planters have more money just now than they ever had before. Not only did they get the highest price in years for cotton, but the same is true of about everything they grow. The result is they are all making improvements and preparing bumper crops for next year.

"Every crop was sold easily, and the demand was not exceeded. In fact, it was much larger than the supply. This is especially true of Florida citrus fruits and every sort of vegetable. The improved transportation facilities and cheap rates make it possible for the grower to get his crops into the big Northern market almost as soon as though they were grown near at hand and at only a little advance in freight. It is this reason, perhaps, which is rapidly increasing the population of this section."

President Emerson announced that it was the intention of the directors of the Atlantic Coast Line to double-track the main line of the system from Florida to its Northern terminus. He said that 250 miles of double track had been constructed in the year just ended and that 30 miles more are in hand. The company has begun work replacing the five miles of wooden trestle across the Pee Dee, Santee and Savannah rivers with concrete, and it is expected that the improvement will be completed next month. The Atlantic Coast Line is to spend many millions of dollars on improvements during the year.—Washington Herald.

## 30 CLOCKS STRUCK IN VAIN.

**Robert Willoughby, the Punctual Motorman, Was Dead.**

New York, January 16.—For the first time in 30 years Robert Willoughby failed to wake up this morning when his 30 clocks, simultaneously setting off a series of gongs, gave their customary alarms at 6 o'clock. He had died sometime during the night of Bright's disease.

Willoughby was 57 years old and had been employed as a motorman by the Third Avenue Elevated Railway. He was the most punctual employee in the service. No matter what the weather was, Willoughby was never late.

the secret of his punctuality came to light when his room was inspected today. Ranged round near his bed were 30 clocks of different sizes and makes. All struck the same hour at the same time.

Willoughby came from an old Maryland family.

## Aurora Giant Dead.

Chicago, Jan. 16.—Peter Klees, police magistrate at Aurora, who weighed 595 pounds, is dead. A portion of his residence will be torn away to permit the body being taken out. There is no hearsie big enough, and a bobsled will be used in its place.

It pays to raise corn. Mr. J. D. Johnson, of Robeson county, says he sold for one of his sons the corn from an acre and it netted \$95 after paying all expenses. It looks like the boys are going to teach their fathers how to grow hog and hominy as the best paying crops.—News and Observer.

## STATE NEWS.

Nine houses occupied by negroes were burned Saturday morning in New Bern.

It is now an assured realization that a railroad will be built from Goldsboro to Seven Springs.

As the result of a fight, Richard Bivens stabbed to death with his pocket knife Vassar Fowler, in Granville County Saturday afternoon.

Hardy Ray, a little seven year old boy, of Charlotte, lost his life Thursday morning of last week in an effort to build up a fire with kerosene.

A lucky Rowan County woman saved herself last week from criminal assault from a burly negro by shooting a pistol. The negro made good his escape.

L. D. Robinson, Solicitor of the eighth judicial district, has resigned to take effect January 24. There are several prominent Democrats who are candidates for the job.

The annual meeting of the North Carolina Merchants' Association will be held this year in June at Salisbury. This thriving city is preparing to give the visitors a hearty welcome.

The Guilford County Poultry Association held a full show of chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks etc., at Greensboro last week. The exhibit, which has created much interest, closed Thursday night.

Mrs. W. J. Plummer, an aged woman of eighty-five, who lived at Salisbury, met an awful death Tuesday of last week, by falling into the fire. She started to replenish the fire when she fell, with her head in the open embers.

A dreadful accident occurred in Burlington Saturday, when Mr. Frank Phillips, an employee in Plaid Cotton Mills, was caught in the shafting and his right arm torn off just below the elbow. A serious wound was also inflicted in his left side.

The town authorities of New Bern took four children from Mrs. A. L. Price last week and bound them out to farmers of Pamlico County because she was not able to properly care for them. She was allowed to keep her youngest child.

Fourteen boys from Granville won a trip to Raleigh in corn growing contests. Last week, nine of them made this visit. The young men, ranging in age from 14 to 17, were escorted about the city by Prof. I. O. Schaub, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

A society to be known as the "Anti-Tuberculosis Society of Wilson County," has been organized in Wilson. An interesting feature of the meeting, which was held in the Mayor's office, was the reading of a paper on "Etiology and the History of Tuberculosis" by Dr. Henry B. Best.

The two year old little girl of Mr. A. S. Cratch, of near Washington, was burned to death on Thursday of last week. Having been left with some smaller children for only a few minutes, the mother returned to the room and found a broom on fire and the clothing of the youngest child in flames.

Wednesday of last week was the anniversary of the first birthday of the Stonewall Jackson Training and Industrial school at Concord, which is accomplishing so much in the noble work of saving wayward boys of North Carolina. Appropriate exercises followed the annual meeting of the board of trustees.

Judge W. R. Allen has rendered a decision sustaining the Clerk of Harnett County in his refusal to remove H. C. McNeil as executor of the estate of the late W. A. Stewart who was killed by a train in Dunn about a year ago. After the railroad company compromised the suit against it by agreeing to pay the estate of Stewart the sum of \$25,000, Mrs. Stewart, the widow, sought to have McNeil removed as executor, and enjoined the railroad company from paying the money over to him. The courts so far have sustained McNeil. An appeal has been taken to the Supreme Court.

## MAY OBEY SPINSTER'S WILL.

**Though Relative Objects, Trustee Demands That the Body Be Stabbed.**

Pittsburg, Jan. 16.—The police had to be called out this afternoon to keep a crowd from tearing down the house at 342 Main Street, where the body of Miss Laura White, the rich recluse, was found yesterday.

Miss White's will has caused a clash between the Fidelity Title and Trust Company of Pittsburg and Dr. Robert White of Connellsville, her only living relative in this vicinity. Dr. White insists on disobeying the provision of the will asking that her heart be stabbed three times after she has been dead ten days. President C. S. Gray of the trust company insists that the requirements of the will be carried out. Dr. White may enter court tomorrow in an attempt to prevent what he calls desecration.

From those who had known the woman long it was learned to-day that she had been haunted with a fear that she would be buried alive. Forty-five years ago she was engaged to marry a young man named Graham, who died suddenly. Months later it was necessary to move the body to another cemetery. The coffin was opened, and the body was found to have turned on its side.—New York Times.

## FLOOD LOSS \$14,000,000.

**Salt Lake Railroads Washed Out For Ninety-three Miles.**

Salt Lake City, Utah, Jan. 17.—Advices from the flooded districts of the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake road, filter in slowly. It is now known that ninety-three miles of track are washed out. All trains, save four locals, have been abandoned.

It is estimated that it will cost \$14,000,000 to rebuild the line, which must follow a different route, and one which detours to Meadow Valley, Wash. The wash-out of three years ago entailed a loss of \$3,000,000 and delayed traffic only a few weeks. The damage wrought by the present flood is so stupendous that the officials themselves cannot give comprehensive details. It is considered the greatest railroad disaster in the history of the world.

All the available steel in the Oregon Short Line and other Harriman systems in the West would not be sufficient to provide material for temporary tracks.

## Kills Inmate With Hoe.

Elizabeth City, N. C., Jan. 17.—Griffin Jennings, aged 75 years, and an inmate of the Pasquotank county home, is charged with the killing of another aged inmate, R. M. J. Ellis, with a hoe. The trouble was precipitated by a dispute at the breakfast table. Jennings is in jail and will be given a hearing tomorrow morning.

## Rev. Dr. P. R. Law Locates Site Of the Pythian Orphanage.

Clayton, Jan. 13.—The architect, the engineer and the contractor for the Pythian orphanage met Rev. Dr. P. R. Law of the Pythian board of trustees on the ground at Clayton today and he located the precise site of the first building of the group to constitute the orphans' home.

In the presence of the interested spectators Rev. Dr. Law, in behalf of the Pythians of the State, removed the first dirt with a new shovel which is to be kept in memory of this initial service. The work of excavating goes on and carloads of lime and brick are on the side track of the railway. The contractor is expected to rush the work to completion.—Charlotte Observer.

## Snow is City's Plague.

Chicago, Jan. 15.—It is estimated that 41,599,800 tons of snow have fallen in Chicago this winter, and a fortune has been spent to clean the streets. Pneumonia and other troubles have made it a disastrous thing of beauty and ugliness.

## HEROES GET BIG VERDICT.

**Bridge Workers Let themselves Be Maimed to Save Companions.**

As a sequel to a thrilling accident to a bridge worker, a jury in the Queens County Supreme Court at Flushing yesterday returned a verdict for \$20,000 to each of two men, who, by their bravery, saved the lives of several other workmen, while building the Queensboro Bridge over the East River. The verdict is against the Pennsylvania Steel Company, the bridge contractors.

On Dec. 11, 1907, Orlazus Jude to this city, and Jno. J. McGlynn of Long Island City were at work on the tower of the bridge at the water's edge on the Queens side. They were more than 100 feet in the air. A heavy steel plate was being put into place by a gang of men, of which Jude and McGlynn were members. The plate was almost in place, when it began to slip. These two men realized that if it fell the lives of at least three of their companions would be sacrificed. Both men thrust their hands into a crevice beneath the plate. It ground on for a few feet almost tearing off the hands of the two men. But the beam was stopped in its fall.

The nerve of the men prevented them from fainting while they were being held prisoners, and until the plate was raised and they were released. Then they were carried to the pavement below, and taken to St. John's Hospital, where their hands were amputated.

Both men as workers at their trade were able to earn from \$35 to \$40 a week, but since the accident they have been able to earn but little.—New York Times.

## RUSSIA LEADS IN WHEAT.

**Its Crop of Last Year Exceeded Ours by 26,000,000 Bushels.**

Washington, Jan. 15.—The United States has lost its place as the greatest wheat producing country in the world, and Russia has won that distinction. Even though last year the total yield of wheat in the United States was next to the largest in the history of American agriculture, the crop of 1901 only having exceeded it, Russia last year produced the remarkably large harvest of 783,000,000 bushels, or 46,980,000,000 pounds, which constitutes the largest crop ever harvested by any country, and 26,000,000 bushels greater than that of the United States.

The great yield of Russia for 1909, as shown by the revised official returns which have just been received by the United States Department of Agriculture, is the feature of the grain world for the year. Coming after three successive short crops it exceeds by more than 100,000,000 bushels the previous record of Russia.

Only twice has the wheat production of Russia surpassed that of the United States, the first in 1904, when the crop here was a partial failure. The wheat acreage in Russia has been rapidly increasing for many years. Last year it was over 65,000,000 acres. Rye was grown on 72,000,000 acres last year. Rye is the chief bread grain of Russia, while wheat is the "money crop," about one-fourth of the whole being exported.

## Heavy Snow in New York.

Kingston, N. Y., Jan. 14.—Twenty-nine inches of snow had fallen on the level at Davenport Centre, Delaware County, before a blizzard started through this section of the state at noon. The gale increased in violence steadily as the sun went down, and tonight all traffic is seriously hampered throughout the Catskill Mountain region. In some places the roads are already impassable.

Elk Park, a town of 1,200 in Mitchell county, was swept by a destructive fire last week. Twenty buildings in the center of the town are in ashes, with an estimated loss of \$75,000.

## NOTES OF INTEREST.

At the Royal Normal College for the Blind in London 90 per cent of the students are self-supporting.

The coining value of silver produced from the mines of the world since 1492 is practically equal to that of the gold produced in that period—13 billion dollars.

Canada has 100,000 Indians among her population of 6,000,000. The Government has isolated them, as wards of the nation, in reserves, which are scattered all over the Dominion.

In 1851 there were over 8,000,000 people in Ireland, but in 1901 the population was no more than 4,456,000. Thus in half a century the population decreased to almost half that which it formerly was.

Citizens of Concord, N. H., propose to erect there a statue of Ralph Waldo Emerson, to cost \$20,000, and the sculptor, Daniel C. French, who in his youth was Mr. Emerson's neighbor and friend, has consented to undertake the work.

Rev. Watson Dana, 73 years old, of Ohio, who is visiting Kansas City, has never raised his hat to a woman, and declares that he never will. "The Bible teaches us to uncover our heads when we enter the temple of the most high," he said, "and this mark of respect I reserve for my God."

According to the reports of the Manitoba Department of Agriculture the value of the butter produced in this province during 1908 was \$1,216,976, an increase over that of the previous year of about \$170,000. The cheese produced in 1908 was valued at \$183,294, compared with \$168,997 in 1907.

The total area under cotton in India, including both the early and the late crop sown up to the end of September, amounted to 18,722,000 acres. For the same period last season the area was 16,990,000 acres. There was, therefore, an increase of 10 per cent, as shown by the figures of the present season.

According to the census of 1901, the production of eggs in Prince Edward Island amounted to 2,426,251 dozens, valued at \$248,423. The production in 1909 is estimated at 4,000,000 dozens, of which 3,000,000 dozens will be shipped to Quebec and the other maritime provinces, to England, and to the United States.

Another "melon" of large proportions—the distribution of \$20,000,000 in common stock—is to be given the stockholders of the International Harvester Company. The directors of the company have recommended that the entire \$80,000,000 of stock be placed on at 4 per cent dividend basis, commencing next April.

The number of persons of all races employed on the railways in India in 1883 was: Europeans, 3,995; Eurasians, 9,982; Indians, 177,287. At the close of 1908 these figures had amounted to: Europeans, 7,180; Eurasians, 9,982; Indians, 499,594, showing the tendency toward decreasing the relative number of European employees.

The Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church in New York city is to give a salary of \$12,000, together with a home whose rental value is set at \$5000 a year, to get as its pastor Rev. Dr. Henry Jowett of Carrs Lane Congregational chapel in Birmingham, Eng. Dr. Jowett is also promised a yearly vacation of two months. But the latest news from England is that Dr. Jowett has declined the call.

The New York Convention of the Layman's Missionary Movement for the evangelization of the world, which was in session in New York for a week was brought to a close with a meeting for men in the Hippodrome Sunday afternoon. The Hippodrome was crowded with ministers and laymen, and before the meeting closed a resolution was adopted calling for the collection of a fund of \$725,000 this year for the foreign missions. Last year the sum raised was about \$400,000.

## ROCKFELLER NURSE DEAD.

**Miss Williams, 100 Years Old, Had Lived 80 Years in Cleveland.**

Cleveland, Jan. 16.—Miss Eleanor Williams, once a nurse in the home of John D. Rockefeller, died Saturday night. She was 100 years old.

Eighty years ago, when Cleveland was a malaria-stricken village at the mouth of a stagnant creek, she began to nurse the children of the settlers. She was alone, an English emigrant, and to none of her friends did she ever reveal who were her parents or whether she had any relatives alive.

A quarter of a century ago she was sent for by Mr. Rockefeller to nurse one of his children, who was ill. The affection for the kindly people in the old Euclid Avenue home which she gained there she never lost. For the past ten years she has lived with Mrs. Samuel H. Crowl.

## STATE NEWS.

At a meeting of the Harnett county bar held at Lillington Tuesday resolutions were unanimously adopted endorsing Mr. J. C. Clifford, of Dunn, for Judge of the sixth judicial district.

Mr. Billie Warren, of Sampson, carried a load of turkeys to Dunn last week, which included two weighing 36 and 38 pounds respectively. He received for the two \$11.10 This is hard to beat on fowls.

Mrs. Hayward Baker, of Wayne County, was burned to death Friday while dressing one of her children for school. Her husband who is a paralytic, being unable to help her, was compelled to witness the horrible scene.

Mrs. George W. Wynne, of Greensboro, was buried at La-Grange Tuesday afternoon. While her bereaved husband, age 79, was waiting at the station for the train he was expecting to take to return to Greensboro, he was suddenly stricken and died of heart failure.

An unfortunate fire caused by the explosion of a lamp which was setting on a shelf above a stove, resulted in the horrible burning of two young ladies, Misses Lessie and Bessie Westcott, at Manteo, last week. No hope is entertained for the recovery of one, while the other, though she will recover, will be maimed for life.

A Good Roads Meeting will be held at Raleigh, N. C., on January 27, 1910. This meeting is called by the State Geologist for all those interested in improved roads for North Carolina to discuss what can be done to assist the various counties throughout the State in putting forth still greater efforts for the construction of good roads within their borders. The meeting will also take up the discussion of State aid to counties in the construction of good roads.

Arthur Johnson, a young man, of Salisbury, had a very narrow escape from death last Friday. Mr. Johnson, having delivered a load of lumber, was driving towards the railroad crossing. The flagman detained him a few moments, then told him to drive on. He did so, and his team was struck by a car. The wagon, a total wreck, the mules and Mr. Johnson were shoved along the track some distance before the engineer could stop the train. It is miraculous that the mules nor the young man were killed.

## Orange Crop Million Short.

Los Angeles, Jan. 16.—This year's orange crop has been damaged approximately \$1,000,000 by the heavy frosts of the last few days, according to the estimates made by reliable growers. Some believe this amount will also cover nursery stock and the coming year's crop, but others figure the total to be several millions. Compared with the \$35,000,000 valuation of the present crop, this is not a discouragingly large item.